

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

COUNTRY East Germany

TOPIC Merseburg Airfield

SECURITY INFORMATION REPORT NO.

25X1

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1A

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 18 July to 9 August 1953

25X1

DATE OBTAIN

DATE PREPARED 1 September 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

25X1X

1. The following aircraft and air activity were observed at Merseburg airfield between 18 July and 8 August 1953:

18 July. At about 2 p.m., 8 single-engine aircraft, probably Yak-11s, landed at the field. No other air activity was observed. There was a 10/10 overcast.

19 July. There was no air activity although the visibility was good and the ceiling closed.

20 July. The aircraft which had landed on 18 July made individual flights between 8 a.m. and 7 p.m. There was a closed ceiling.

21 July. Between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., individual flights were conducted by MiG-15 or IL-15s and single-engine aircraft. [redacted] Between 8:15 p.m. and 3 a.m., night flying was practiced.

22 July. Formation flying was practiced at an altitude of 3,000 meters throughout the day.

23 July. Between 8:30 a.m. and 2 p.m., flying was practiced in formations of two and four. There was a closed ceiling at an altitude of 600 meters.

24 July. Individual flights were made between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. There were no clouds.

25 July. Between 8 a.m. and 5:20 p.m., swept-back jet fighters, [redacted] practiced flying in formations of four and eight for 55 to 60 minutes duration each.

26 July. No air activity was observed. There was good visibility and cloudless weather.

27 July. Throughout the day, a few flights were made. The sky was 2/10 overcast. Night flying was practiced between 9 p.m. and 3 a.m.

28 July. Little air activity was observed throughout the day.

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

SECRET

- 2 -

25X1A

There was a 3/10 overcast and good visibility. There was air activity between 8:15 p.m. and 4 a.m.

29 July. Between noon and 7 p.m., formations of 8 aircraft practiced diving. The MiG-15 or U-MiG-15s formed a large circle in which the aircraft winged over one after the other and subsequently climbed again.

30 July. Between 11 a.m. and 12:20 p.m., individual flights were made by aircraft [redacted]. There was a closed ceiling at an altitude of 500 meters. Individual night flights were made between 7:40 p.m. and midnight.

25X1C

25X1C 31 July. Throughout the day, there was formation flying by aircraft [redacted]. There were no clouds and good visibility. Night flights were practiced between 7:30 p.m. and 10:10 p.m.

1 August. There was a 5/10 overcast. No air activity was observed.

2 to 9 August. There was air activity except on 7 August.

25X1C

Aircraft [redacted] were observed on 6 August. A total of 33 MiG-15 or U-MiG-15s were counted at the field on 8 August.

2. Motor vehicles observed entering and leaving the field included sedan

25X1C

[redacted] with drivers wearing black-bordered blue epaulets. [redacted]

25X1C

25X1C

25X1A [redacted] Comment. Marseburg airfield is believed to be still occupied by a fighter division headquarters and a subordinate fighter regiment. The

25X1C

25X1C aircraft [redacted] were previously observed from Marseburg.

SECRET